

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q80436

TSUKADA, Kenji, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/798,409

Group Art Unit: 2856

Confirmation No.: 5988

Filed: March 12, 2004

Examiner: Rose Mary Miller

For: DETECTOR OF LIQUID CONSUMPTION CONDITION

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after

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U.S. Appln. No.: 10/798,409

filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicants submit English Abstracts of the Applications.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicants do not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

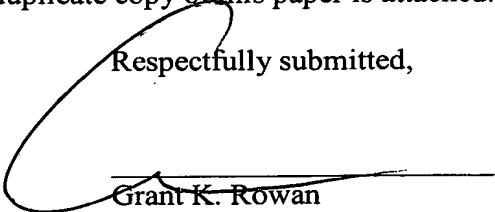
Respectfully submitted,

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WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER


Grant K. Rowan
Registration No. 41,278

Date: April 18, 2005

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/798,409
				Confirmation Number	5988
				Filing Date	March 12, 2004
				First Named Inventor	TSUKADA, Kenji
				Art Unit	2856
				Examiner Name	Rose Mary Miller
Sheet 1 of 5				Attorney Docket Number	Q80436

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US 6,799,820	B1	10/05/2004	Usui et al.
		US 2002/0012015	A1	01/31/2002	Tsukada et al.
		US 2002/0015068	A1	02/07/2002	Tsukada et al.
		US 2002/0015084	A1	02/07/2002	Tsukada et al.
		US 2002/0105555	A1	08/08/2002	Tsukada et al.
		US 2002/0135623	A1	09/26/2002	Tsukada et al.
		US 2002/0170353	A1	11/21/2002	Usui et al.
		US 2003/0043216	A1	03/06/2003	Usui et al.
		US 2003/0071862	A1	04/17/2003	Tsukada et al.

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Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
		EP	1 055 520	A1	11/29/2000	Seiko Epson Corporation	
		JP	10-323993		12/08/1998	Canon Inc.	Abstract
		JP	10-175312		06/03/1998	Canon Inc.	Abstract
		JP	03-169642		07/23/1991	Canon Inc.	Abstract
		JP	03-067657		03/22/1991	Canon Inc.	Abstract
		JP	09-286121		11/04/1997	Brother Ind. Ltd.	Abstract
		JP	2001-146030		05/29/2001	Seiko Epson Corp.	Abstract
		GB	2321107	A	07/15/1998	Smiths Industries Public Lmted. Co.	

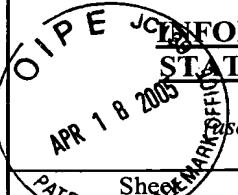
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Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶

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		US 2003/0117450	A1	06/26/2003	Usui et al.
		US 2003/0117451	A1	06/26/2003	Usui et al.
		US 2003/0140694	A1	07/31/2003	Usui et al.
		US 4,196,625		04/08/1980	Kern
		US 4,310,957		01/19/1982	Sachs
		US 4,604,633		08/05/1986	Kimura et al.
		US 4,677,448		06/30/1987	Mizusawa et al.
		US 4,935,751		06/19/1990	Hamlin
		US 4,977,413		12/11/1990	Yamanaka et al.

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		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US 5,068,836		11/26/1991	Steel
		US 5,132,711		07/21/1992	Shinada et al.
		US 5,506,611		04/09/1996	Ujita et al.
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		US 6,012,794		01/11/2000	Nakano et al.
		US 6,155,664		12/05/2000	Cook
		US 6,254,212	B1	07/03/2001	Coudray et al.
		US 6,347,853	B1	02/19/2002	Kato
		US 6,361,136	B1	03/26/2002	Watanabe et al.
		US 6,416,152	B1	07/09/2002	Matsuzaki et al.
		US 6,435,638	B1	08/20/2002	Wilson et al.
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		US 5,524,486		06/11/1996	Hermann

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		US 5,247,832		09/28/1993	Umezawa et al.
		US 3,394,589		07/30/68	Tomioka
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